

WHAT THE NEGRO PROBLEM IS NOT

Subject Considered From an Impersonal Point of View.

FACTS ABOUT ILLITERACY.

Professor R. R. Wright in Sociological Treatment of the Great Question Says It Is Not a Negro Problem If the Maladjustment Is Not Common to the Whole Group.

Philadelphia. — Professor R. R. Wright, Jr., has recently issued in book form extracts from his two lectures on the sociological attitude in the study of Negro problems, which he prepared for and delivered to the social study class at the university of Pennsylvania. The first part tells of the attitude which social students ought to have in the study of race problems and the difficulties involved. The second part consists of an analysis of the Negro problem. The lectures attracted considerable attention, being regarded as among the most philosophic and logical ever delivered on the subject at any of the leading colleges.

Under the caption the "Study of Race Problems" Professor Wright says:

"In the study of the facts in human activity the very condition of scientific value must be the accuracy and impartiality of the observation of students. For accurate observation the student must be tolerant and open minded. He must be widely acquainted with the history and condition of peoples in different parts of the world in order to be entirely rid of national, sectional, racial, religious and political bias.

"In spite of his race, religion and early education, he ought to be able to look at the facts of society entirely from an impersonal point of view. This is especially necessary in the study of nationalities and races different from our own. We are very liable to underrate these peoples—to consider their mental and physical differences and mental and physical inferiorities; to call their religion heathenish; to look upon their racial tendencies as downward if they are not as ours. This will give us a provincial philosophy, but nothing of real scientific value.

"In what consists the particular and peculiar Negro race problem of which we hear so much? A social problem may be said to exist with reference to any particular group when there is in any way maladjustment of that group with respect to its environment. Then the Negro problem must be a social problem of maladjustment between the Negro group and its American environment. A social problem is a Negro problem in so far as the social maladjustment is, first, common to the great mass of the Negro group and, second, peculiar to it. It is not a Negro problem if the maladjustment is not common to the entire Negro group—that is, only Negroes suffer it. This we must get clearly in our minds if we are to understand the problem of the Negro.

What the Negro Problem Is Not. "Much confusion already exists as to just what this maladjustment is, and to avoid further confusion careful analysis is necessary. The average person with whom I have come in contact identifies in some way the Negro problem with the problem of ignorance and vice, or with poverty and immorality, or with industrial inefficiency, unemployment or some other pathological social condition. One says if it were not for the ignorance of the Negro there would be no problem. But let us examine this and we will see that the Negro problem is not a problem of illiteracy or ignorance. In the first place, illiteracy is not common to the Negro race, for the majority of them can read and write.

"In the second place, illiteracy is not peculiar to them as a race, for there are more white illiterates in this country than Negro illiterates. In 1900 the census gave 3,200,000 as the number of white illiterates and 2,853,194 as the number of Negro illiterates in the United States. There are, according to the same census, fourteen times as many white illiterates in the state of Pennsylvania as Negro illiterates.

"By the same authority in proportion to population there is less illiteracy among the younger generation of Negroes living in the north than in the same class of whites living in the south. The throngs which come to our great cities have a great deal more ignorance among the foreign white element than among the Negroes. It is plain, therefore, that ignorance and illiteracy are not the Negro problem, although many Negroes as well as whites are involved in the general problem of ignorance, which has no color whatever."

The New York Vigilance Committee. Disregard for the laws of the state which guarantee to all citizens equal rights and equal protection has given rise to a new organization in New York known as the New York vigilance committee, which is a branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The committee will not take up cases involving claims for wages, damages for accidents or any other cases except those which involve an infringement of legal rights because of race or color.

FOREIGN MISSION WORKERS.

Return to Their Respective Fields With Hearty Benedictions.

Much credit is due the Rev. Dr. L. G. Jordan, corresponding secretary of the national Baptist foreign mission board, for the able manner in which he conducted the recent farewell meetings in honor of the Rev. S. A. Richardson, returning missionary to his field in Albiontown, South America, and the Rev. George E. Stewart, who goes to the West Indies.

Meetings were held in most of the principal cities from Louisville, Ky., where the missionary headquarters are, en route to New York. In Philadelphia the meeting was held at the Shiloh Baptist church under the auspices of the Baptist ministers' conference.

Speaking on the subject the "Case Stated," Rev. Dr. C. H. Parrish of Louisville delivered a forceful and instructive address on the condition of the foreign mission work of the denomination. Other speakers were corresponding secretary, L. G. Jordan, and the Rev. Dr. John H. Frank, whose subject was, "And Now Finally Brethren." The people responded liberally to the appeal for funds with which to defray the missionaries' passage. The sum of \$360 was raised within a few minutes.

New York was the next objective point. The meeting was held at the Mount Olivet Baptist church, of which the Rev. W. P. Hayes is pastor. While the audience was not so large as the one in Philadelphia, nevertheless a snug sum was raised. The Abyssinian Baptist church, Dr. A. Clayton Powell, pastor, gave \$100 to the fund. Drs. Parrish, Frank and Jordan, who came all the way from Louisville with the missionaries, were much gratified over the results of the trip and expressed sincere thanks to each of the churches for its liberality.

CAPABLE NEWSPAPER MEN WHO ARE MAKING GOOD.

George F. King Retained by Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News.

Among the younger men who are making their mark as reporters, correspondents and special contributors to daily and weekly papers is George F. King, a native of Norfolk, Va. Mr. King is well known in most every section of the country. He is ambitious, persistent and capable and never loses an opportunity to make good in whatever territory to which he may be assigned for duty.

As correspondent for a number of weekly papers Mr. King has reported many notable gatherings, such as conferences, conventions and annual meetings of secret and mutual benefit organizations. In the prompt performance of his duty in this respect he has won the reputation of being accurate, quick and concise in his statements, always getting his matter to the editor on time and in good shape. In the early part of 1911 Mr. King accompanied Judge Pritchard and Dr. James E. Shepard on their northern tour in the interest of the National Religious Training school, of which Dr. Shepard is the founder and president.

As an evidence of Mr. King's ability and usefulness it is interesting to note that the management of the Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News has retained his services for another year as one of the special contributors to that influential journal. Being connected with the Associated Press, Mr. King contributes to a number of evening papers in various sections of the south. He maintains headquarters in Wilmington, N. C., as well as in Greensboro, as a matter of convenience.

Other correspondents who are Mr. King's seniors in the business are Charles Stewart, Horace D. Slatter, R. W. Thompson and Franklin F. Johnson. The first two mentioned are Associated Press correspondents. Mr. Stewart (J. O. Midnight) is the dean of the able coterie. Each of them has made good.

THE TUSKEGEE CONFERENCE.

Increasing Interest in Annual Meeting of Farmers and Teachers.

Unusual interest is being manifested in the coming farmers' conference, which is to be held at the Tuskegee (Ala.) institute for two days, beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 17. As an evidence of how the work of the conference is regarded by agriculturists of large holdings reference need only be made to President L. K. Salisbury of the Mississippi Delta Planting company of Nashville, Tenn., who has consented to deliver one of the principal addresses during the conference.

Mr. Salisbury employs over 1,000 of our people in the operation of the Delta company, and therefore he knows the value of having trained workers in his employ. The conference for farmers will be followed on Thursday by the workers' conference.

The conference, which was established twenty-one years ago with a meeting of a few farmers, ministers and teachers from the surrounding country, has extended its influence and strengthened its hold upon the masses of the people from year to year since that time. The record of its work is in thousands of individual lives which it has inspired with fresh hope and a new ambition in the struggle for better things.

The South Carolina Race Conference. The annual South Carolina race conference will be held in Columbia, S. C., for three days, beginning on Monday, Jan. 22. Rev. Richard Carroll is one of the prime factors in the movement.

SOCIETY OF SONS OF VIRGINIA

Thrifty Organization Has New Corps of Capable Officials.

GRAHAM H. CARTER'S REPORT

Annual Family Reunion and Reception of Strong Mutual Benefit Society Attended by Great Throng of Members and Invited Guests—Who the Newly Elected Officers Are.

By N. BARNETT DODSON.

Brooklyn.—The most notable event among mutual benefit organizations in this city the first week in the new year was the annual installation of the newly elected officers of the Society of the Sons of Virginia on Thursday evening, Jan. 4. The occasion brought together not only the members, but their families and friends and a large number of visitors, who were the special guests of the society.

Mr. Peter H. Fisher, the retiring president, presided over the business session, which was brief, including



CHARLES H. TURNER.

only the annual report of the treasurer, Mr. Graham H. Carter, which showed that after paying all expenses the society has \$3,250 to its credit in bank. Other holdings of the organization give it a total valuation of \$3,500. The membership numbers over 100, and among them are some of the most influential men of the community. The newly elected officers were installed by the Rev. Dr. C. P. Cole, pastor of the Bridge Street A. M. E. church.

They are the following: President, Edward H. Wilson; vice president, Charles H. Turner; treasurer, Graham H. Carter; financial secretary, Peter H. Fisher, Sr.; recording secretary, H. G. Minute Byrd; corresponding secretary, Arthur Durrell, Jr.; sergeant at arms, James S. Watkins; chaplain, Alexander Brown. The new members of the board of directors are Hugh S. Newton, C. H. Turner and H. G. Byrd.

President Wilson is one of Brooklyn's best known and most highly respected citizens. He has been actively engaged in religious work and movements for civic betterment for over a quarter of a century and therefore brings to the organization ripe experience, influence and splendid executive ability. He holds a responsible position with the board of education, with which he has been connected for many years.

Mr. Charles H. Turner, the vice president, comes from the ranks of the younger men and, like Mr. Wilson, has made an enviable record as an employee in a large financial institution. He is a native of Frederick county, Va., and has been a resident in the north for twenty-five years. Mr. Turner first attracted the attention of wealthy and influential persons while in the employ of the well known W. P. Whitlock family of Elizabeth, N. J., and also while employed by Mr. J. D. Fairchild of Brooklyn.

It was through such influential persons that he secured his present responsible position with the Kings County Trust company of this city, which he has held creditably for the past eight years. Besides his work in the Brooklyn office of the concern, Mr. Turner attends to the Wall street end of the company's interests, making all loans and other financial transactions which require intelligence and adaptability. The occasion was a real reunion and reception ushering in the new year.

Employment Bureau of Y. M. C. A. The employment bureau of the Carlton Avenue Y. M. C. A. in Brooklyn has been in operation one year. It was started by Arthur L. Comither, one of the younger members of the association, for the purpose of assisting unemployed members and non-members in getting suitable employment. Mr. Comither, who has risen to the position of assistant secretary and head of the department, has made the following report: Number of applicants for positions, 298; applications from employers for help, 297; number of positions secured for applicants, men and boys, 151.

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

Miss Hedin, sister of Sven Hedin, the explorer of Tibet, is serving as a member of the city council of Stockholm.

Eleanor Colley has been admitted to fellowship in the Royal College of Surgeons of England. She is the first woman to gain that distinction.

Miss Julia D. Kitts, seven-year-old daughter of Lieutenant William P. Kitts, Twenty-first United States Infantry, has traveled over 46,000 miles already and may lay claim to the world's juvenile traveling record.

Miss Clara Smith, instructor of mathematics at Wellesley college, has been elected a fellow of an American association of savants, in consideration of her discovery that Abel's theorems can be used to do Bissell's problems in a quicker and simpler manner than hitherto known.

Mrs. Mary Gaunt, an Englishwoman who recently returned from a journey in the wilds of Africa, has been instrumental in founding a travelers' club in London for women. Only intrepid voyagers are eligible, and it is hoped the club will grow into an association to help women who wish to explore faraway lands.

Sporting Notes.

The twelfth annual tournament of the American bowling congress will begin in Chicago on March 2 and will last three weeks.

Roger Bresnahan, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, has signed William Armour, former president of the Toledo American Association club, as one of his scouts.

Warren Sargent, a sophomore at Michigan, is believed to be the coming champion of the world in the high jump. He clears the bar at six feet one inch in practice.

Michael Donlin will not be with the Giants next season. At least so says President John Montgomery Ward of the Boston Nationals. Ward says that Donlin will remain with the Boston team.

Pert Personals.

Elbert Hubbard says that he "feeds his soul with white hyacinths." How Elbert's soul must dread mealtimes!—Detroit Free Press.

King George is said to have greatly enjoyed a tiger hunt in India. Some of the English ladies who do not like Queen Mary were mean enough to hint that it was a welcome relief from ordinary domestic life.—Rochester Times.

Congressmen who visit the isthmus look with astonishment and almost with awe on Colonel Goethals. It is difficult to understand a man who is not trying to make a million for himself out of the situation.—Minneapolis Journal.

State Lines.

There are more members of Protestant churches in Pennsylvania than in any other state in the Union.

Georgia produces twenty-three different kinds of minerals in commercial quantities to the aggregate value of about \$6,000,000 a year.

Massachusetts lays claim to some 6,000 acres of cranberry bog. New Jersey has 8,000 and Wisconsin 6,000. In point of area these states are followed in turn by Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York.

The Schoolroom.

America's first town school was established at Hartford, Conn., in 1642.

Woman schoolteachers in the higher schools of Russia have been put on the same wage schedule as man teachers, with the same rights in respect to pensions.

In the schools of Holland it is part of the course of instruction to teach French, German and English. When a pupil reaches the period of graduation he must take an examination in these languages.

Cost of Living.

It is about time for some one to found an Ancient and Honorable Order of Those Who Used to Eat Eggs.—New York Tribune.

Which reminds us that the goose that laid the golden eggs was, compared to the present day hen, a mere piker.—Detroit Times.

The Washington Post wants it made more difficult to get married, but the butcher and grocer are attending to that right along.—Denver Republican.

The Twenty Lists.

Good morning! Have you fixed up your list of twenty greatest people for this month?—Detroit News.

And every good husband no doubt is sure that he is married to one of the twenty world's greatest women.—Detroit Free Press.

Now somebody should submit a list of the world's twenty greatest buns, since we are going in for the honoring of philanthropists.—Chicago News.

Recent Inventions.

To measure and record the vibrations of a machine or building photographically is the purpose of an apparatus invented in England.

A hot water bottle so shaped that it can be heated by the insertion of an electric light bulb in a pocket has been patented by an Oregon man.

For disinfecting books a Mimosian has invented a revolving stand to hold them open while they are being whirled against a jet of some gas that is a germicide.

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Dr. Johnson. Dr. Samuel Johnson, who feared death as much as any man of whom there is any record, when told that his end was near refused the opiates to which he had been accustomed.

The Dead in Siam. The Siamese bury the bodies of those who have died of cholera and smallpox or those killed by lightning. Those who die from any other cause are cremated, the bodies being usually kept for a year before the ceremony of burning, which does not add to the healthfulness of the community.

Swiss Forests. In Switzerland many of the best forests are owned by the cities.

Irrigation in Spain. Spain has twenty-nine important rivers not now used for irrigation. The Tago passes within nineteen miles of an unproductive area of nearly 5,000,000 acres. The surface now irrigated comprises 3,700,000 acres, containing 340 miles of canals.

Broken Ivory. Broken ivory can be mended with a cement made by dissolving alum in hot water until a thick fluid mass is obtained.

The First Paper. It was in Egypt that the first paper was made. From Egypt the art passed on to China, Japan and thence to Europe through Central Asia by the Arabs.

The Gazette. Newspapers take the title "gazette" from a small Venetian coin of that name, the price of the first news sheet published.

Moons in the Solar System. There are at least twenty moons in the solar system. Saturn alone has eight, the biggest of them, Titan, being nearly twice the size of the moon, and Jupiter possesses four, ranging in dimensions upward from Europa, just about as large as the orb of terrestrial night, to Ganymede, greatest of all known moons, with a diameter of 3,480 miles, whereas the moon belonging to this world is only 2,160 miles through.

Oak Forests of Slavonia. Authorities appear agreed that, with the exception of the forests of the Mississippi valley and those of the Asiatic Caucasus, the oak forests of Slavonia are without equal.

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From on and after this date The Broad Ax, can be found on sale at the following news stands:

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R. M. Harvey's barber shop and news stand, 3924 State street.

Mrs. Nellie Phelps, cigars, notions and news stand, 15 W. 36th St., near Dearborn.

W. S. Cole, cigars, tobacco and news stand, 34 W. 31st St., near Dearborn.

T. B. Hall, laundry office and news stand, 11 W. 29th St., near State.

Mrs. Jas. H. Lewis, notions, cigars and newsstand, 15 W. 36th St., near State.

B. Davis, cigars, tobacco and news stand, 3532 State St.

W. M. Maxwell, notions, cigars, tobacco, confections and news stand, 5244 State St.

Edward Felix, notions, cigars and news stand, 52 W. 30th St.

F. Bishop, cigars, tobacco and news stand, 8 W. 27th St., near State.

Turner Williams' barber shop and news stand, 3252 State St.

Sylvester McGlofin, news stand and laundry office, 4122 State St.

William Gaughan, laundry office, cigars, tobacco and news stand, 2636 State St.

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